

CARRIER TAPE EMBOSSING APPARATUS CLAMP

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A carrier tape embossing apparatus clamp for linear movement and retention of a carrier tape (48) during its embossing process which consists of a pair of opposed clamp bodies (20) with a radial cavity (30) on the top, a leaf spring (38) covering the top, a spring retainer (40) attached to the top for holding the spring on one side, and a pair of actuating rods (44) disposed within each radial cavity. The leaf spring (38) bends upward away from the body when each respective rod is rotated as the rod has a flat surface and is not eccentric with the cavities. The carrier tape (48) is gripped between the clamp bodies and the leaf springs with linear actuating means propelling the clamp along with its retained tape in a linear direction through appropriate stations in a carrier tape embossing apparatus. The tape is released from between the clamp body (20) and the leaf spring (38), when the embossing apparatus returns the clamp body (20) to its original at-rest position. The apparatus urges the tape forward when clamped on the edges and propels the tape sequentially through the carrier tape heating forming and piercing stations. The apparatus creates the necessary appropriate timed sequence for the retaining and linear propulsion.